

BEFORE THE
POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20268-0001

MARKET DOMINANT PRODUCT PRICES
BILATERAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN UNITED STATES POSTAL
SERVICE AND SINGAPORE POST LIMITED (MC2010-35)
NEGOTIATED SERVICE AGREEMENTS

Docket No.
R2014-5

**RESPONSE OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE TO
REQUEST FOR SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION**
(February 24, 2014)

The United States Postal Service hereby provides its response to the request for supplemental information contained in Commission Order No. 1988, issued February 18, 2014. The Postal Regulatory Commission's (Commission's) request is reprinted verbatim in the attached, and is followed by the Postal Service's response.

Respectfully submitted,

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
By its attorneys:

Anthony F. Alverno
Chief Counsel
Global Business and Service Development
Corporate and Postal Business Law Section

Christopher C. Meyerson
Attorney

475 L'Enfant Plaza, S.W. Rm. 6029
Washington, D.C. 20260-1137
(202) 268-7820; Fax -5628
christopher.c.meyerson@usps.gov
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REQUEST:

Supplemental information. The sentence that is added in Annex 2 reads: “The Exempt indicator in the PREDES message will reflect ‘N’.” *Id.*, Attachment 2 at 1. The sentence immediately preceding the additional sentence refers to number of receptacles and number of individual pieces. *Id.* The Postal Service is directed to explain what the “N” in the new sentence refers to and to provide a brief explanation of PREDES. The Postal Service is also directed to address how the inclusion of the new sentence alters contractual obligations relative to the 2013 Agreement.

RESPONSE:

USPS and Foreign Posts communicate through electronic messages concerning what is expected to be sent and what was actually received. The PREDES, or “pre-advice”, is an electronic message sent by the outbound dispatching Post providing information on what is expected to be sent to the receiving Post.

Some mail is exempt from settlement charges. The PREDES contains an Exempt Indicator (“Y” for “Yes” and “N” for “No”) that informs the receiving Post if receptacles in a dispatch are classified as Exempt.

The inbound ePacket from Singapore Post uses the “UD” mail subclass. Some Foreign Posts, such as Singapore Post, also use the “UD” subclass for sending Exempt mail. Under the bilateral, Singapore Post is not to send Exempt mail under the UD-subclass, but the Exempt Indicator in its PREDES was still designating the contents as Exempt.

In the Modification Four that is the subject of this docket, the Agreement was amended to the effect that the Inbound ePacket PREDES from Singapore should have the Exempt Indicator set to "N".